

Yale Program For
Women's Reproductive
Behavioral Health
(WRBH)

MoTHERS Study

The goal of the Mothers Testing Hormonal Effects on Resonance Spectroscopy Study (MoTHERS Study) seeks to determine the impact that pregnancy and childbirth-related changes in hormones have on a particular brain chemical called gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA).

GABA is a brain chemical that is important as it "calms" or "inhibits" nerve cells from firing. The hormone progesterone is known to have effects on this brain chemical through one of its metabolites. Healthy women are recruited during or immediately after pregnancy and screened for this study. Postpartum women undergo brain imaging at 2-4wks, 6-8 wks, and 22-24 weeks after delivery. Participation in studies such as this are crucial to further our understanding of why up to 13% of postpartum women become depressed. All women are paid \$100 for each scan they complete (HIC #9958). For more information visit www.research4women.org or call 203-764-9934.